



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Trailfest Celebration Nears

Park Authority Invites Public to Explore 40 - Mile CCT

Trailfest is coming and it's going to be one BIG party with dozens and dozens of activities planned along the 40-mile Cross County Trail. Organizers believe that thousands of Fairfax County residents will turn out for the family friendly festivities on May 6, 2006.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax Park Foundation have joined together to mark the official opening of the trail which was completed last winter. Although a ceremony was held in December, 2005 marking the trail's completion, the return of warm weather will now allow families to experience the trail first-hand with fun runs, general and nature hikes, trail bike safety and repair, pet trail etiquette, activities for scouts, stewardship projects, and a brilliant fireworks display at the end of the day at Laurel Hill Golf Club. Several organizations will walk the entire trail or ride bikes on significant portions and equestrians will ride the trail.

Navigating the Cross County Trail has been simplified through the addition of signage. More than 100 new trail markers will be placed in the next three weeks, bringing the total number of signs on the trail to over 800. Additional temporary markers placed on May 6th and Park Authority staff members will help guide those exploring the trail for the first time. Trail experiences can be physically challenging or a mild walk in the park and trail surfaces vary from paved sections to dirt covered paths or even muddy areas with stream crossings. Trail conditions, parking information, details of the events, and who to contact with questions can be found online at the Park Authority website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Five ribbon cuttings are slated for the day. These events will lead participants from the northern end of the county to the southern end, traveling nearly the entire span of the trail. Officials hope to publicly thank the many individuals, volunteers, and organizations which made the trail a reality.

Ceremonies scheduled for the day are as follows:

7 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony at Difficult Run Stream Valley Park in Great Falls.

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703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-MAIL: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.

9 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony at Oak Marr RECenter Trailhead Area at 3200 Jermantown Road in Oakton.

11:30 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony at Wakefield Park at 8100 Braddock Road in Annandale

2 p.m. ribbon cutting ceremony at Lake Accotink Park at 7500 Accotink Road, Springfield

7 p.m. ribbon cutting ceremony and musical entertainment adjacent to the Laurel Hill Golf Club at 8400 Lorton Road, Laurel Hill. Ceremonies will be followed by a fireworks display at dark.

The trail has been divided into five geographically designated areas. To find out what activities will be taking place in your area visit us online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trailfest. For general information about the Cross County Trail visit us online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/cct/. For information on May 6th, contact our Trail Information Line at 703-324-8373. For general information contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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